

Message Text

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UNCLAS. AUGUST 2 (PASS TO VOA) HIGH CIRCULATION, LEADING NEWS-PAPERS LA PRENSA GRAFICA AND EL DIARIO DE HOY TODAY CARRIED REPORTS FROM PANAMA STATING THAT PRESIDENT MOLINA, IN BRIEFING THE PANAMIAN AND CENTRAL AMERICAN PRESS, HAD SAID THE SALVADORAN PEOPLE ARE "DEDICATED TO WORK, PEACE AND TRANQUILLITY AND THAT THEY ARE NOT THINKING ABOUT ENGAGING IN WARS (WITH OTHER COUNTRIES)." PRESIDENT MOLINA AND HIGH MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET MADE AN UNEXPECTED VISIT OVER THE WEEK-END TO PANAMA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INAUGURATION OF SEVERAL PROJECTS AT THE INVITATION OF GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS.

IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, THE SALVADORAN FOR MINISTER MAURICIO BOROGONOV PHOL, WHO IS ACCOMPANYING PRESIDENT MOLINA, SAID THAT IT WAS TOTALY FALSE THAT SALVADORAN FORCES HAD ATTACKED HONDURAN TROOPS OR POSITIONS ALONG THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL BORDER. "THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT, - HE ADDED", IS DETERMINED TO REACH A DEFINITIVE SETTLEMENT OF ITS DISPUTE WITH HONDURAS AND IT IS EXPECTING THE ARRIVAL OF SOME 20 OAS MILITARY OBSERVERS TO ENFORCE THE SAN JOSE PROTOCOL ALONG THE FRONTIER TO CONSOLIDATE PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA."

THE FACT THAT THE SALVADORAN CHIEF OF STATE AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THIS CABINET WERE IN PANAMA REFLECTED THE PEACEFUL CLIMATE PREVAILING IN EL SALVADOR. SOME CENTRAL AMERICAN POLITICAL ANALYSTS POINTED OUT THAT IT "WOULD BE ILLOGICAL THAT EL SALVADOR COULD BE ON A WAR-FOOTING WHILE THE PRESIDENT OF THIS COUNTRYHX UNCLASSIFIED

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WAS TRAVELLING ABROAD." IN A RELATED COMMENTARY, LA PRENSA

GRAFICA EDITORIALIZED TODAY ON THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS TO CREATE A DEMILITARIZED ZONE TO PREVENT MORE ARMED CLASHES ON THE BORDER. ACCORDING TO THE DAILY, THE RESPONSIBILITY TO REACH PEACE RESTS WITH THE ARMIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. "IT IS THE BEHAVIOR OF THE TROOPS OF BOTH COUNTRIES THAT ULTIMATELY WILL MAKE IT AN EFFECTIVE CONCILIATION*"

SAID LA PRENSA GRAFICA (EXCERPTS IN SPANISH):

"LLAMA LA ATENCION EL HECHO DE QUE POCOS MINUTOS A POCAS HORAS DE SU ARRIBO A LA CIUDAD DE GUATEMALA, CANCELLERES Y KSFES DE ESTADO MAYOR DE HONDURAS Y EL SALVADOR DEN A PUBLICIDAD HABER SUSCRITO AL ACUERDO DE DESMILITARIZACION. ES COMO SI EN LA GUERRERA O EN EL CARTAPACIO HUBIESE IDO YA REDACTADO EL DOCUMENTO EN MENCION. ES COMO SI HUBIESE HABIDO UN ACUERDO PREVIO A LA FIRMA DEL ACUERDO..ESTO..PUDIERA ESTA INDICANDO EL PRINCIPIO DEL FIN DE REUNIONES A NIVEL MINISTERIAL Y ABRIENDOLE PASO A UN ENTIENDIMIENTO MAS DIRECTO ENTRE LOS HOMBRES QUE VISTEN UNIFORMES ESTARIA INDICANDO QUE EL EJERCITO DE CADA PAIS COBRA MAYOR CONCIENCIA DE LA RESPONSABILIDAD QUE LE CORRESPONDE YA QUE EN UN CONFLICTO SON SOLDADOS LOS QUE SE ENFRENTAN. Y EN EL CASO HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR EL SOLDADO QUE DISPARA DE ALLA ES HERMANO DEL SOLDADO QUE DISPARA DE ACA Y JVICEVERSA. SE TRATA DE EJERCITOS QUE HAN SUPERADO ETAPAS MONTANERAS Y COMPREDEN QUE NINGUNA RABD HAY PARA ESTARSE ENSEÑANDO LOS DIETES AOR LAS ARMAS- EN LA LINEA DIVIS JIA.

"CONFIEMOS EN QUE EL ACERDO DE DISMILITARIZACION NO ESTE SOLO EN EL PAPEL DE LAS FIRMAS, SINO EN EL COMPOROFNMENTO EFECTIVO POR PARTE DE AMBOS EJERCITOS."
GRIFFITHS

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